



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 29, 2004.

Appl No.

: 10/622,213

Confirmation No. 4675

Applicant

: Carlos Duarte, et al.

Filed

: July 18, 2003

Title

: UPRIGHT HINGE FOR SPA COVER

TC/A.U.

: 3751

Examiner

: Khoa D. Huynh

Docket No. : 50228/MEG/F314

Customer No.: 23363

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068

December 29, 2004

Commissioner:

This is in response to the Office action mailed November 29, 2004.

On page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner states that restriction to one of the following species and one of the following subspecies is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- Species I (as depicted in Fig. 1). I.
- Species II (as depicted in Fig. 9). II.
- Subspecies A (as depicted in Fig. 2). Α.
- В. Subspecies B (as depicted in Fig. 3).

Appln No. 10/622,213

Amdt date December 29, 2004

Reply to Office action of November 29, 2004

Applicant elects Species I (as depicted in Fig. 1) and Subspecies B (as depicted in Fig. 3) for further prosecution on the merits.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8-23 are readable on species I, subspecies B.

Consideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

Mark Garscia

Reg. No. 31,953

626/795-9900

MEG/cks CKS PAS599433.1-*-12/29/04 10:23 AM